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Urban District of Kenilworth

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1958

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts

Leamington Spa

A. TOMES LTD., PRINTERS, 46, BEDFORD STREET

1960

38, HOLLY WALK,
LEAMINGTON SPA.

October 20th, 1959.

To the Kenilworth Urban District Council

Mr. CHAIRMAN, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report upon the health of your district during 1958.

Once again, a rise in population was recorded. The figure of 390 is close to that recorded in 1957 and was due more to the entry of new families into Kenilworth than to natural increase. The number of families entering the district causes some unbalance in the normal distribution of age groups within the community. Thus, there tends to develop a high proportion of children and young adults so that the number of births becomes larger than usual. The deaths number less than would have been expected in a town where age distribution conformed more nearly to the standard for England and Wales. Therefore, it is necessary to apply correction factors to the crude rates of births and deaths in order to make them comparable with the standard rates for the whole country. The Registrar General has this year supplied factors which require a 6 per cent. reduction in the crude birth rate and a 17 per cent. increase in the crude death rate in order to provide this basis of comparison. When this has been done, the corrected figures relate to those for England and Wales which appear under Table II.

The Summer of 1958 was exceedingly wet and dismal ; this caused floods in parts of the town. In the spring, there had already been much delay to pipelaying in the contract for a relief main sewer. In July, there was severe flooding at the Engine Inn and elsewhere. In August, approximately four inches of rain fell during the month of which $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches descended upon the town in the course of the day August 22nd. At its peak, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches of rain fell in ninety minutes. This, of course, surcharged many drains with the consequence that not only were many properties flooded quickly, but great quantities of grit and other solid matter were brought into the sewers and helped to choke these at vulnerable points.

Your out-door staff were at work to relieve these difficulties until midnight upon the 22nd and the whole of Saturday, 23rd August until 9 p.m. They were hampered upon

the latter day by heavy traffic when attempting to clear a sewer stoppage in the main road. Eventually, a large metal drum and baulks of timber were found to have been impacted in a manhole chamber. In the following month, there were further sewer stoppages in the main street, and once again much material was cleared out of the system.

In October, surcharges occurred at the Swimming Baths and in Whitemoor Road. In November, an open watercourse along the Southern boundary of Dalehouse Estate was enclosed to Parkfield in 18in. i.d. concrete pipes for a distance of over one hundred yards and a connection was made by a manhole to the outlet of the pond at Parkfield. By this time, the sewer laying had progressed well along Windy Arbour and many of the manholes and connections had been completed. These various misfortunes emphasized only what was already known to members of the Council, i.e. that in addition to the relief sewer, attention was needed in various places to the surface drainage of storm water and that the sewage works themselves needed both enlargement and reconstruction. Plans for the latter had been placed in the hands of the Council's Consulting Engineer.

A report by the Surveyor into surface drainage problems about this time mentioned that the sewer system was originally designed around a 4,000 population figure, which had grown to over 12,000. The proportions of paved area and properties with modern sanitary conveniences are now higher than ever before. Dense housing development in the Rouncil Lane sector exposed weak links in the system both at this end of the town and in Waverley Road. There is, however, good reason to hope that the drainage projects in hand will remedy most of the faults which have led in the past to repeated flooding. It remains to be seen, however, if what can be done at reasonable expense will take care of situations produced by freak rainfalls such as that experienced upon August 22nd, 1958.

Other matters, although not unimportant, will be dismissed with more brevity. The Council has entered into membership of the Warwickshire Clean Air Council. It will receive technical advice and assistance upon its own special problems and will also maintain several instruments in order to measure the degree and forms of atmospheric pollution in the town. These findings will be of value and interest for the

future. Kenilworth has not itself a large sector of industry, but is situated within the zone of possible air drift from one or more large industrial centres.

In October, I attended as your delegate a sessional meeting of the Royal Society of Health held in Wolverhampton. Part of the proceedings were papers and discussion of problems posed by the increasing development of processes which employ either radioactive isotopes or machines which cause radiation which needs in the interests of health to be strictly controlled. There was a measure of agreement that, even though the technical considerations might be beyond the resources of many local authorities, these should be better informed of matters in this field than at present.

During the year, the Council decided to take resolute action in respect of a collection of shacks and vans in Rouncil Lane. Complaints had come in over a period of years regarding this encampment which had perhaps at one time been used for the temporary lodgement of gipsies and other itinerant persons. With the passage of time, however, it became clear that there was the nucleus of a shanty town forming with little or no regard to amenity or hygienic principles. Negotiations with the site owner brought about no measurable improvement, but rather than contest the proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936, contemplated by the Council, he ceased to allow the use of the agricultural land for human habitation.

This survey of the Department's work will be incomplete without a reference to the aid given to me in all possible ways by the Surveyor and Mr. Sillifant and indeed to the friendly co-operation of all the Officers of this Council with whom my duties have brought me into personal contact. I am also much indebted to the members of the Council, and in particular those serving upon the Health Committee, for their kindness to me personally and for the lively interest shown in the services with which I am concerned.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. LIVINGSTONE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Kenilworth Urban District

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Area	...	...	...	...	5,967 acres
No. of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	3,893
Product of a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£678
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	£167,720
Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1957	...	...	...	...	13,020
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	(Crude)	...	...	...	15.3
	(Corrected)	...	...	...	14.3
Still Birth Rate—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	...	9.9
Death Rate per 1,000 population	(Crude)	...	...	...	9.2
	(Corrected)	...	...	...	10.8
Deaths from Diseases and	}	From Sepsis	...	...	—
Accidents of Pregnancy and		From other causes	...	...	—
Child-birth					
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—					
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	15.0
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	10.5
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live					
births	...	...	...	...	125
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	—

The population has increased by 390 persons. The natural increase (*i.e.* excess of births over deaths) was only 79.

Statistics for England and Wales are shown at the foot of Table II.

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

1. *Public Health Officers.*—The Staff is as follows :—
One combined post.—Surveyor, Water Engineer and Chief Public Health Inspector.
One Assistant Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

2. *Public Health Laboratories.* The Public Health Laboratory Service, under the direction of the Medical Research Council, maintains a laboratory at Stoney Stanton Road, Coventry. Here Dr. J. M. Whitehead and his staff examine specimens submitted in the course of local investigations into infectious disease and carrier states. Routine examinations are also made into the purity of water, milk, ice-cream and foodstuffs and special tests can be arranged in connection with actual cases of suspected food poisoning. Apart from the large volume of routine sampling undertaken free of charge,

the local authority's health staff is able to receive personal advice and help in their enquiries from the pathologists at the Coventry Laboratory. The table of samples submitted in respect of three listed diseases will be dropped from this and future reports as it gives an incomplete picture of the services rendered by the laboratory staff.

An Infant Welfare Centre is held at the Clinic, Station Road, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2-0—4-0 p.m.

Local enquiries regarding Home Help, After-care, Health Visiting, Domiciliary, Nursing and Midwifery Services to Area Health Office, 38, Holly Walk, Leamington Spa ('Phone 2998 and 2999). National Welfare Foods are distributed at points in the district, details of which have been publicly advertised.

Ambulance facilities.—The County Council's Ambulance Depot at Lakin Road, Warwick (Telephone No. Warwick 86) serves the urban district.

Hospital services.—Maternity cases are admitted to the Warneford hospital; Tuberculosis patients go to Hertford Hill Sanatorium and mental illness is treated at the Central Hospital, Hatton.

District Nursing, Domiciliary Midwifery and Health Visiting.—These services of the local health authority are administered on behalf of the Central Area Health Subcommittee from the Area Health Office in Leamington Spa. The staff available in the County services for Kenilworth and district at the end of 1958 was as follows :—

District Nurses	...	...	...	...	2
District Nurse Midwives			...	...	4
Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	3

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

1. *Water Supply.*—The water supply to the area remains the same as before. The work of fitting the new pump at the Birmingham Road borehole was commenced by Messrs. Hayward Tyler & Co. Ltd., and a number of delays created further difficulties in obtaining equipment.

The three pumps at the Mill End Pumping Station have given general satisfaction. The Mather & Platt pump in Borehole No. 1 had small repairs carried out to it, and the Harland pump in No. 2 borehole was fitted with new slip rings. The

Mather & Platt pump has now been in operation since 1933 giving a yield of 8,000 gallons per hour, and the Harland pump since 1937, with a yield of 12,000 to 13,000 gallons per hour. No. 3 Borehole is fitted with a Pulsometer pump, and has been working since 1948, with a yield varying between 13,000 and 15,000 gallons per hour.

Water main extensions were made in Thickthorn Close, Manor Road, Brookside Avenue, Arden Road, and a 6in. main link was made from Warwick Road, via Clarendon Road, under the railway to the Station Farm Estate. Three new metered supplies were provided and services were installed for 154 houses. A main repair was necessary in Birches Lane.

The total amount of water pumped during the period was 142,930,000 gallons, giving an average of 392,665 gallons per day, as compared with 445,934 gallons per day for the previous year, which shows a decrease of 53,269 gallons per day. This is equal to a reduction of 19,390,000 gallons for the year. The reduction in the amount of water used can undoubtedly be contributed to a large extent to the wet weather that was experienced.

Twelve specimens of raw water were taken for bacteriological analyses, and the results were satisfactory, and indicated a continuance of the high standard of purity. A chemical analysis taken in August gave the following results :—

WATER ANALYSIS

Results expressed in parts per 1,000,000

Received on 21st August, 1958.

From G. A. J. Edmundson, Esq.

Description : Sample of mains water, 3 p.m., 21/8/1958.

Free and Saline Ammonia	0.044
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Albuminoid Ammonia	0.016
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Chlorine in Chlorides	26.0
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Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites	3.0
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----

Oxygen absorbed from permanganate			}	0.0
at 80°F. in 4 hours		

Total Solids dried at 100°C.	290
------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----

Nitrite	Very minute trace
---------	-----	-----	-----	-------------------

pH	7.5
----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Free Chlorine	Absent
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Appearance : Bright, few small particles.

The above results show that this water is chemically a very pure one and suitable for use as a public supply.

Nearly the entire population is served by a piped water supply, there being only isolated properties in the rural portion of the district which have to rely upon their own wells.

During the year Mr. Canham resigned from his appointment of Waterworks Superintendent, in which capacity he had served you loyally for some 10 years. This appointment was filled by Mr. H. Hacking, who commenced his duties in November.

2. *Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Works.*—During this year 29 stoppages occurred in the sewers. The policy of sewer scraping and cleaning was continued. This class of work was completed on the length in Warwick Road from St. John's to Clarendon Road ; the entire length of Clarendon Road, and from Station Road to Mill End. Up to the end of November, 10 tons of material had been removed from the main sewers, consisting mainly of small granite chippings

Surcharging of the sewers occurred at St. John's on the 29th January through heavy rains. At this time there was also flooding through the watercourse near Villiers Road being choked through debris. The watercourse from Chase Lane to Red Lane was deepened and enclosed by a 30in. concrete tube for approximately half the distance from Chase Lane. The watercourse from Mill End Cottage to Street Sidings was widened and deepened. The manhole at the junction of St. John's Street and Warwick Road was reconstructed, and a number of obstructions removed from the Warwick Road sewer.

On the 27th June flooding occurred at the Engine Inn, there being 1in. of rainfall in two days. Heavy flooding was experienced on the 22nd August, when the rainfall for the day was $1\frac{3}{4}$ in., $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. of this falling in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours. The flooding on this occasion was wide-spread, shops in the main street were flooded, as well as several houses in Villiers Road. Subsequent to this, the open ditch at the rear of Villiers Road was piped in.

The contract for the relief sewer to the east of the town was completed on the 13th October, and came into use on that

date. This sewer now takes the whole of the drainage from Windy Arbour, Arbour Close, Thornby Avenue, Glasshouse Lane, Birches Lane and Moseley Road.

New sewer connections were made in Manor Road and Beehive Hill.

The normal maintenance work has continued at the Sewage Disposal Works, where the load, owing to the housing development, is increasing. As previously, screenings were disposed of on nearby farmland. This, and the removal of sludge, was made extremely difficult owing to the very wet year.

Contract gully emptying has continued, and the street gullies have been emptied quarterly. The emptying of cess-pools is done by private arrangement between the gully emptying firm and the individuals concerned.

3. *Rivers and Streams*.—The watercourse from along Warwick Road to St. John's was cleaned and repaired. The whole of the open watercourse from St. John's to Mill End was deepened and graded, and the culvert from Mill End to Street Sidings thoroughly cleaned and new access manholes provided. The watercourse from Parkfield to Villiers Road was completely piped, with the necessary manhole chambers. A surface water drain was laid from School Lane to Finham Brook.

4. *Public Cleansing*.—The collection of house refuse is still on a weekly basis, and is carried out by two vehicles—one rear loading and one side loading. The bonus scheme is still in operation on the same basis, and the number of houses from which collection is made is rapidly increasing each year.

Tipping sites are becoming difficult, and I would like to record my appreciation of the help made by Councillor Bostock by providing tipping accommodation in Rouncil Lane during this year. The use of this site was discontinued on the 18th October, when the disposal of refuse reverted to the White-moor Road site.

D. HOUSING

	1958	1957	1956
Number of houses built by :			
(a) Local Authority	9	31	—
(b) Private Enterprise	91	134	141
Total number of completed houses owned by the Council	749	756	743
Total number of prefabricated houses owned by the Council	50	50	50
Houses converted into flats, maison- nettes, etc. and into 2 houses ...	—	8	2
Number of demolition orders made	—	—	—
Number of houses demolished and owned by the Council	24	16	—
Closing of unfit houses	1	15	2
Number of unfit houses made fit :			
(a) by Official Notices	—	—	—
(b) Informally	38	49	45

Work was commenced in October on the erection of a block of 15 one-bedroom flats in St. John's Street on what was previously the site of 16 houses.

The Rent Act, 1957.—During the year 16 applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair. Each of these were thoroughly investigated and considered on their merits. Notices of Proposal to Issue Certificates of Disrepair were issued and landlords gave undertakings to carry out the specified repairs in 15 cases. One Certificate of Disrepair was issued. In addition two Certificates as to the Remedying of Defects were issued.

Improvements Grants.—A number of applications were received for grant towards improvements under the Housing Acts, 1949, 1954 and 1957, and grants were made in respect of 13 properties. Most of the work was completed during the year.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) *Milk Supply*.—Registrations under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 to 1954 are 13. Five Supplementary licences were issued to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk and five Supplementary for Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk. Four dealers' licences to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk and six for Pasteurised Milk have also been issued, and the normal regular inspections of such premises are made throughout the year.

(b) *Ice Cream*.—There is a total of 46 premises registered under Section 16(a) Food and Drugs Act, 1955. There are no manufacturers in the district.

(c) *Preserved Food*.—Eleven premises are registered under Section 16(b) Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The work of food preparation in this district is carried out under suitable conditions.

During the year 440 visits have been made to private slaughterhouses in the district for the purpose of meat inspections.

The following is the statistical information with regard to the inspection of meat :—

APPENDIX.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	498	43	87	3,277	1,256	None
Number inspected ...	498	43	87	3,277	1,256	None
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i> ... Whole carcasses condemned	None	None	1	6	None	None
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	68	11	None	114	55	None
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	13.7%	25.6%	1.15%	3.72%	4.38%	None
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i> Whole carcasses condemned	1	None	None	None	None	None
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	20	14	None	None	8	None
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	4.22%	32.6%	None	None	0.64%	None
<i>Cysticercosis:</i> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	None	None	None	None	None
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	None	None	None	None	None
Generalised and totally condemned	None	None	None	None	None	None

All meat found to be unfit is transported to the knacker's yard in Rouncil Lane.

During the year the method of handling meat has been satisfactory.

(d) *Other trades*.—Premises where food is prepared or sold have been inspected as required, and have usually been found in reasonable condition.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955, SECTION 31

Tuberculous Milk Investigation—only one Routine Milk Sample for biological examination during the year 1958 was taken by officers of the County Council within the district with the following result :—

<i>Designation of Milk</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples</i>			<i>No. Positive</i>
Pasteurised	—	—	—	—
“ Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ”	—	—	—	—
“ Tuberculin Tested ”	1	—	—	Nil
Non-Designated	—	—	—	—

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Incidence of Major Infectious Diseases since 1951

		Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Anterior Poliomyelitis	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1951	...	1	17	—	68	—	—
1952	...	—	10	—	10	—	—
1953	...	—	1	1	3	5	—
1954	...	—	—	—	2	—	1
1955	...	—	4	—	9	—	—
1956	...	—	—	—	4	—	1
1957	...	—	1	—	3	5	1
1958	...	—	1	—	—	—	5

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the cases notified during 1958.

The experience this year was satisfactory as regards the notifiable list of infectious diseases. A few cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified from a maternity annexe serving a hospital unit in another district. Prompt consultations were held with the authorities concerned and agreement was reached as to the measures of control which should be taken.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—The figures were :—

			1956	1957	1958
Schoolchildren	...	...	12	21	21
Infants and children under					
5 years	...	...	143	141	225
			—	—	—
Total	...	...	155	162	246
			—	—	—
Booster doses (all ages)	...		132	66	190

Diphtheria Immunisation.—A satisfactory response has been obtained this year and the figures for 1958 were better than for several years past. Even allowing for the increased population, these show that an unusually high level of protection has been obtained. This result has been obtained by persistent health education and by frequent opportunities of having the inoculations. In addition to the children attending clinics, many are now immunised by their family doctors who also participate in the County scheme.

There is a firm demand from parents for protection against Whooping Cough as the disease is sufficiently common to be known and feared. In view of the serious threat to infant life if the disease is contracted by small babies, the modern tendency is to bring forward to the third month or so the first of the series of three injections. Some doctors now advocate the use of a triple antigen i.e. one which includes tetanus and diphtheria toxoids along with whooping cough vaccine. The introduction of this type of vaccine is being studied.

TUBERCULOSIS

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Transfers into District				Deaths			
	Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
25-35	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	3	2	1	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	1

Tuberculosis.—The figures recorded were again satisfactory. The Mass Radiography Unit again visited the Kenilworth July Carnival and met with good support in spite of bad weather. Several days were later spent at a fixed location in the town.

Prevention

18 persons were inoculated with B.C.G. Vaccine, 3 fewer than last year. At present B.C.G. Vaccination is given only to individuals at special risk. Next year, however, the County Council is likely to implement the scheme, previously approved, for the vaccination of 13-year-old schoolchildren. Such schemes have been in operation for several years in some Midland districts, but a start was not made here until the Medical Research Council's report upon the pilot survey should be available for study. This having proved the value of B.C.G. vaccination, the figures for next year will show a substantial increase.

Tuberculosis.—The following table shows the cases notified, and deaths for the past 20 years :—

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Cases ...	10	19	14	11	9	10	9
Deaths...	4	4	8	5	2	3	1
	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Cases ...	9	4	1	14	3	3	13
Deaths...	3	6	2	3	—	3	2
	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	
Cases ...	15	15	13	15	5	6	
Deaths...	1	—	—	—	2	1	

CLEAN AIR ACT

The Council is a founder member of the Warwickshire Clean Air Council and has signified to the latter body its intention or contemplation of having a programme of smoke control areas. When more data have been collected from the instruments sited locally one will be better placed to judge the extent of pollution due to the domestic coal fire and the parts of the town which most need attention. Technical Officers of the Clean Air Council have visited Kenilworth and given a report regarding the siting of extra instruments in the Spring Lane and Whitemoor Road area as part of an enquiry into alleged emissions of smoke and grit from industrial premises. Instruments previously being maintained were :—

1 Deposit Gauge

1 Head Peroxide Candle
1 Daily Smoke filter
and Volumetric SO₂
apparatus

Council Depot,
Kenilworth.

Taking the highest daily mean readings of the daily smoke filter for each month of the latter half of the year the atmospheric smoke concentrations for November were over five times and for December eight times the levels in July and August. These figures are obtained by the use of a photo-electric reflectometer in the analytical laboratory so that personal factors are eliminated and comparable results are recorded.

Treatment.—6 patients were admitted to the Sanatorium for treatment during the year, and 3 were discharged.

1 death occurred and the notifications were almost evenly distributed as to sex.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

*To the Chairman and Members of
The Kenilworth Urban District Council.*

Mr. CHAIRMAN, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my 22nd Annual Report as your Public Health Inspector for the year ending 31st December, 1958.

In addition to the routine work of the department, it was necessary to give much time to the auxiliary sewer from St. John's Street to the Sewage Disposal Works, and the completion of the Dalehouse Lane 1st Housing Contract. Plans were prepared and construction commenced on the erection of a block of fifteen one-bedroom flats at St. John's Street.

A number of watermain extensions were necessary in connection with both private housing development and for your own schemes. The old properties on the Whites Row and St. John's Street sites were demolished and cleared by contract. Considerable attention was necessary to your foul and surface water drainage systems. The main foul sewers were systematically scraped and cleaned, and additional pipe work was completed in connection with your surface water drains.

The Sewage Disposal Works have continued functioning, although they are very much overloaded, and the increasing volume of water has made it impossible for the treatment works to operate satisfactorily.

May I conclude by expressing my very sincere thanks to all the members of the staff serving in the department for their loyal help, and also my thanks to the Members of the Council and to Dr. Livingstone for the co-operation and tolerance which they have always given.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. A. J. EDMUNDSON,
Public Health Inspector.

Nuisances

Inspections for nuisance have continued as normally. A number of notices have been served in this respect, and these have generally been complied with.

Infectious Diseases

No notifications were received of Diphtheria or Scarlet Fever during the year, and full details of other cases are given by the Medical Officer of Health in another part of this report.

Disinfection of Premises

Disinfection is carried out upon instructions from the Medical Officer of Health in respect of such cases, and supplies of disinfectant are given free. Disinfection is also carried out on request in serious cases.

Drainage and Sewerage

Defects were remedied in respect of drainage to 14 different properties. During this year there has been much surcharging of sewers, and this has been mainly caused through the excessive rainfall. A number of violent storms caused extensive flooding at various times during the year, and one of these in particular was beyond the capacity of any normal drainage system, when $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. of rain fell in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours. Some of this surcharging will in future be borne by the auxiliary sewer between St. John's Street and the Sewage Disposal Works.

Public Cleansing and Salvage

The mechanical sweeper has operated satisfactorily during the year, and has improved the condition of the streets in the town very considerably. Manual scavenging is now mainly confined to footpaths, and the keeping of these clean and tidy by weeding etc. as well as scavenging.

The weekly house refuse collection has been maintained, and the only variation is at times of break-downs and holidays. The bonus system appears to be working satisfactorily, but there has been much difficulty in obtaining sites for the proper disposal of refuse. Once again Councillor Bostock has been of very considerable help in allowing tipping on his land in the Rouncil Lane district. This has continued during the summer months, where the deposited material has been covered by earth each day.

In November I discussed the question of a destructor with the representatives of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in London. They expressed very strongly the need for controlled tipping in this area, and suggested that this type of disposal be continued if at all possible.

Smoke Abatement

One of the primary objects of the Warwickshire Clean Air Council was to obtain accurate information as to the nature and degree of atmospheric pollution throughout the county.

Constituent member authorities were asked to instal and maintain measuring apparatus for this purpose, and three such instruments were permanently installed at the Council Yard. Readings were taken daily, and recordings and samples were submitted to the Laboratory at weekly intervals.

In addition a further five instruments were temporarily sited in the Spring Lane-Arthur Street area in order to investigate the local nuisance existing there.

Open-Air Bathing Pool

The Swimming Pool was opened to the public on the 24th May, and was closed on the 21st September. The recorded attendances for the period are given below, with comparisons for previous years:—

			1958	1957	1956
Adults	...	...	4,731	8,327	4,613
Children	...	...	10,450	12,111	12,169
Spectators	...	...	4,820	5,012	3,803
Sundays	...	...	4,705	4,194	2,846

The new chlorination plant, which was installed to give break-point chlorination, has continued to work satisfactorily, and has enabled the water to be maintained at high standard. The pumping plant has also worked satisfactorily.

During this year the terrace on the west side was extended, and the boarded fencing replaced on the east side. During the very heavy storm in August water flooded into the Bath, and it was necessary for this to be closed for several days whilst the bath was emptied, cleaned and re-filled.

Verminous Premises

In cases of verminous premises insecticides have been supplied to help in the cleansing. During the year three such houses were inspected, entailing seven visits.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

Inspections of food premises in connection with the food Hygiene Regulations continued throughout the year. Many premises were found to fall short of the requirements of the Regulations, and 11 informal notices have been served.

Milk.—There has been little trouble with this type of food, and distribution has been generally satisfactory. All deliveries are in enclosed bottles, and no complaints have been received of dirty ones. Two complaints were received of inferior keeping quality.

There is a total of 13 distributors and one dairy now registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949. All the milk which is sold is Designated Milk.

The following licences to sell Designated Milk have been issued :—

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Supplementary licences (Tuberculin Tested)	...	5
Dealers' Licences (Tuberculin Tested)	... ..	4

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations, 1949.

Supplementary Licences (Pasteurised)	... ..	5
Dealers' Licences (Pasteurised)	... ..	6

Unfit Food

The following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :—

Soup	... ..	8 tins
Milk	... ..	48 tins
Meat	... ..	16 tins
Vegetables	... ..	20 tins
Fruit	... ..	46 tins
Fish	... ..	11 tins
Egg ...	... ..	14 lbs.

The goods were all destroyed on your refuse tip.

(b) *Ice-Cream.*—Forty-six premises are now on the Register. All the Ice Cream sold in this district is pre-packed, eliminating the risks of contamination very considerably.

(c) *Meat and Meat Products*.—Two premises carry out slaughtering. As all meat is inspected, a large amount of time is involved. The standard of meat generally is good and the conditions satisfactory. The disposal of offals, etc., is properly attended to.

There have been 10 renewals to slaughter or stun animals under the Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 to 1954. The number of premises registered for the manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale remained at 11.

(d) *Other Food Preparing Premises*.—Catering establishments have been visited, and the general standard is satisfactory.

Factories

The number of factories on the Register is 54, 52 being power factories and 2 non-power factories. Most of these premises being modern, are well-maintained and hygienically quite satisfactory.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Rodent control has been done by a part-time employee, and 1,025 visits have been made.

The refuse tips and Sewage Disposal Works are subject to continuous treatment during the year. Treatment has also been given to the main sewers, but there is fortunately small evidence of rats.

New Buildings

215 Houses and Bungalows.

10 Flats.

4 Estate layouts.

259 Garages.

12 Workshops and extensions.

2 Schools.

2 New Shop fronts.

6 Conversions.

2 Change of use.

1 Electricity sub-station.

1 Telephone Exchange.

8 Conservatories and one aviary.

32 Alterations and additions.

TABLE I.
KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.
SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR, 1958.

				Inspections and observations made	Notices served and complied with				
					In-formal	In-formal abated	Formal	Formal abated	
GENERAL SANITATION.	{	Water Supply ... ..	...	13	—	—	—	—
		Drainage ... ..	...	47	14	14	—	—
		Stables and Piggeries ... ..	...	12	3	3	—	—
		Fried Fish Shops ... ..	...	4	—	—	—	—
		Tents, Vans and Sheds ... ..	...	40	8	8	—	—
		Factories ... ..	...	37	5	5	—	—
		Workplaces ... ..	...	—	—	—	—	—
		Bakehouses ... ..	...	9	—	—	—	—
		Public Conveniences ... ..	...	2	—	—	—	—
		Theatres and Places of Entertainment ... ..	...	2	—	—	—	—
		Refuse Collection ... ..	...	78	35	35	—	—
		Refuse Disposal ... ..	...	98	—	—	—	—
		Rats and Mice ... ..	...	105	—	—	—	—
		Miscellaneous ... ..	...	188	—	—	—	—
HOUSING.	{	Knaekers Yard ... ..	...	4	—	—	—	—
		UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :							
		No. of houses inspected ...	...	52	30	25	—	—
		Visits paid to above houses	...	81	—	—	—	—	
		UNDER HOUSING ACTS :							
		No. of houses inspected ...	...	36	14	13	—	—
		Visits paid to above houses	...	61	—	—	—	—	
		UNDER RENT ACT, 1958 :							
		No. of houses inspected ...	...	16	—	—	16	12
		Visits paid to above houses	...	30	—	—	—	—	
MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION. I.D.P.	{	VERMINOUS PREMISES :							
		No. of houses inspected ...	...	4	—	—	—	—
		Visits paid to above houses	...	6	—	—	—	—	
		Applicants for Council Houses	...	14	—	—	—	—	
		INQUIRIES in cases of I.D. ...			2	—	—	—	—
		Visits re Disinfection ... ..	...	2	—	—	—	—
		Miscellaneous infectious disease visits ... ..	...	—	—	—	—	—
		INSPECTION OF MEAT :							
		Visits to Slaughterhouses ...	...	440	—	—	—	—
		VISITS TO :							
		Butchers ... ..	...	14	4	4	—	—
		Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	4	—	—	—	—	
		Grocers ... ..	...	42	8	6	—	—
		Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	2	—	—	—	—	
		Dairies and Milkshops ... ..	...	16	—	—	—	—
		Ice-cream Premises ... ..	...	36	—	—	—	—
		Restaurants ... ..	...	14	—	—	—	—
		Public Houses ... ..	...	2	—	—	—	—
		Miscellaneous Food visits ...	...	21	—	—	—	—
				1534	121	113	16	12	

Voluntary Surrender of Unsound Food ... ..	...	...	No. 20
Quantity of Unsound Meat Condemned... ..	...	...	3291 lbs.
Seizure of Unsound Food ... ..	...	...	2
Samples of Ice-cream taken for Examination ... ..	...	...	—
Samples of Well Water taken for Examination ... ..	...	...	—

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Houses disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease ... ..	...	1
Schools disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease ... ..	...	1
Lots of Bedding steam disinfected or destroyed ... ..	...	2
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or things ... ..	...	—
Convictions for Exposure of Infected Persons or things... ..	...	—
Prosecutions for failure to notify existence of Notifiable Disease	...	—
Convictions for failure to notify existence of Notifiable Disease	...	—

G. A. J. EDMUNDSON,
Public Health Inspector.

TABLE II.

BOROUGH OF ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1958 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Crude Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1949	10,230	195	19.0	9	46	107	10.5
1950	10,550	148	14.0	2	13	94	8.9
1951	10,610	170	16.0	7	41	127	12.0
1952	10,710	177	16.5	3	17	144	13.4
1953	10,870	202	18.5	8	39.6½	121	11.1
1954	11,110	180	16.2	6	33.3	102	9.2
1955	11,550	196	17.0	7	35.8	114	9.9
1956	12,200	231	19.0	6	25.9	103	8.5
1957	12,630	228	18.0	—	—	101	8.0
1958	13,020	199	15.3	3	15.0	120	9.2

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1958.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1958.
(Provisional Figures).

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

			Live Births.	Still Births per 1,000 Births.	Deaths under Deaths. one year to 1,000 Births.	
England and Wales	...	...	16.4	21.6	11.7	22.5

TABLE III

KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR
1958.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox									
Plague									
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)									
Erysipelas									
Scarlet Fever	1	1							
Paratyphoid Fever									
Enteric Fever									
Pneumonia									
Malaria									
Dysentery									
Puerperal Pyrexia	5			2	3			5	
Meningococcal Infection									
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)									
Whooping Cough									
Encephalitis Lethargica									
Ophthalmia Neonatorum									
Measles	10	2	8						
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5			1	3	1			
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1			1					
Food Poisoning									
Totals	22	—	3	8	4	6	1	5	

TABLE IV.
KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1958.

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES
1 Tuberculosis respiratory	—	—
2 Tuberculosis other	—	1
3 Syphilitic disease	1	—
4 Diphtheria	—	—
5 Whooping cough	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections	—	—
7 Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
8 Measles	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	—
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	5	—
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	5
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	3
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neo- plasms	10	6
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—
16 Diabetes	1	—
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	13
18 Coronary disease, angina	14	4
19 Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	3
20 Other heart disease	7	2
21 Other circulatory disease	3	2
22 Influenza	1	—
23 Pneumonia	3	4
24 Bronchitis	3	1
25 Other disease of respiratory system ...	—	1
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	1
28 Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1
29 Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31 Congenital malformations	1	—
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	5	2
33 Motor vehicle accidents	2	—
34 All other accidents	1	3
35 Suicide	—	1
36 Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
All Causes	67	53

